
CHAPTER V

ACTION PLAN

This ICRMP should be utilized as a companion document to the 1993 Master Plan and other planning documents. The plan also is designed to incorporate future proactive planning studies to complement and strengthen Fort Belvoir's existing cultural resource management program.

General Goals

To maintain and strengthen its program of Cultural Resource Management, Fort Belvoir should:

- Plan adequately for the identification and evaluation of cultural resources, in compliance with Federal legislation and Army regulations AR 200-4 and DA PAM 200-4.
- Integrate the results of ICRMP (e.g., goals, objectives, priorities, and cultural resources data) in the updated Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), which is scheduled for revision in 2003.
- Integrate the GIS archeological and historical database, including the historic district and individual National Register properties layers, with master planning maps; ensure that the GIS program is available to all branch chiefs within DIS; and review and update GIS database on regular schedule.
- Integrate provisions for cultural resources in planning documents undertaken or administered by other activities as they are revised (i.e., Housing, Engineering).
- Preserve and maintain historic buildings and structures in accordance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and DA PAM 200-4. Preservation and rehabilitation are recommended as the most appropriate treatment options for historic resources at Fort Belvoir.

Internal Administration

Coordination between DIS and other divisions should be enhanced to integrate cultural resources information more fully into the installation overall planning process. Specific recommendations include the following:

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- Distribute copies of the ICRMP to all planning activities within the DIS, the Public Affairs Office, tenant activities, and all other personnel or agencies that initiate or execute actions that could affect cultural resources.
 - Obtain copies of all cultural resources identification, evaluation, and mitigation studies and archive them in a readily available central location (i.e., the Environmental and Natural Resources Division).
 - Ensure that that all correspondence and other data related to each cultural resources compliance project undertaken at Fort Belvoir are complete (ongoing). In addition, develop a computerized program to permit efficient tracking of future projects requiring Section 106 compliance.
 - Increase environmental/cultural resources staffing, or contract out for specific services to handle increased work load.
 - Consider incorporation of the position of Post Historian into the organizational framework of DIS, and provide the Post Historian with formal Section 106 compliance training.
 - Amend Work Order Form to include "Historical Resources" as a separate check-off item that requires internal and external review, as needed, before work on historic buildings is undertaken.
 - Develop improved methods to ensure that project planners, designers, engineers, and managers consult with the CRM early in the planning stages of a project, particularly if they suspect that the undertaking will have a potential impact on cultural resources. Adoption of other recommendations within this section can facilitate this process.
 - Initiate internal review with CRM for all actions affecting the character of historic resources at Fort Belvoir. CRM will determine if action constitutes an undertaking that requires formal external consultation under Section 106 with the appropriate SHPO(s) and the ACHP in compliance with federal historic preservation laws and applicable Army regulations.
 - Inform tenant organizations that occupy historic buildings; designate the CRM as liaison to tenant organizations to review all maintenance and repair activities that may affect historic resources. CRM will determine if action constitutes an undertaking that requires formal external consultation under Section 106 with the appropriate SHPO and/or ACHP.
 - Develop Design Guidelines in consultation with VDHR for use in work related to historic buildings.
 - Include a pre-qualification clause in all project specifications for undertakings that affect all historic properties. The clause should specify that the contractor should have a *minimum of five (5) years of*
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demonstrated experience in historic preservation projects and acceptable past performance working on historic resources.

- Incorporate the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings* into project specifications under "General Provisions" for work on all historic properties performed under contract.
- Implement the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) contained in Chapter IV of this ICRMP;
- Develop additional appropriate GIS data layers, including: results of review of previous archeological survey intensity (e.g., potential risks for unrecorded sites); historic structures data (including previous survey records, photographs, forms, maintenance records, etc.); and landscape data.

Continued Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties

General Recommendations

- Ensure that archeological projects are conducted according to the *Archeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interiors Standards and Guidelines, National Register Bulletin 24*, and to standards established by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.¹
- Ensure that all identification and evaluation surveys are undertaken by personnel who meet the Professional Qualifications Standards contained in *Archeology and Historic Preservation: The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* (48 CFR 4).²
- Incorporate results of future investigations when ICRMP is updated. This ICRMP should be revised every five years.
- Maintain and update the inventory of identified cultural resources and their National Register status.
- Augment previously prepared interpretive material on the history and cultural resources at Fort Belvoir by developing additional site-specific public interpretation programs and documents for National Register listed or eligible resources, including the Belvoir Manor Ruins Archeological Site, the Fort Belvoir Historic District, the Thermo-Con House, the SM-1 Nuclear Reactor, and the Camp A. A. Humphreys Pump Station complex.

Archeological Investigations

- Complete the Phase I archeological survey for Area R-1 (Davison Airfield).
- Review previous archeological survey documentation to determine areas with potential for unrecorded or poorly mapped archeological sites.
- Plan and budget a reserve allocation of funds for accidental discovery and mitigation of archeological resources, when appropriate.
- Establish a program of periodic monitoring of previously identified unevaluated and National Register eligible archeological sites; prepare conditions assessment reports.
- Conduct archeological evaluation studies (Phase II) to ascertain the extent and integrity of previously identified, unevaluated, archeological resources. Evaluations of potentially eligible identified sites are required for Section 106 compliance or for sites in locations subject to adverse natural effects (e.g., shoreline erosion).
- Prepare and submit a National Register nomination for the Barnes-Owsley site.
- Establish a plan for long-term storage of archeological collections, including the artifacts recovered from archeological sites, the documentary records pertaining to the excavations, and the final report. Federal standards (36 CFR 79, *The Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archeological Collections*) specify that collections can either be stored in a secure fire-proof facility on the installation or transferred to an outside repository that meets federal standards.

Architectural Investigations

- Submit National Register nominations for Fort Belvoir Historic District, SM-1 Plant, Water Filtration Plant, and Thermo-Con House for Federal review and approval. These nominations have been reviewed at the state level.
- Prepare a Landscape Preservation Plan for the Fort Belvoir Historic District that:
 - (1) documents the historical development of the installation in terms of its original plan design and subsequent developments;
 - (2) identifies the character-defining features associated with the designed and natural landscape; and

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- (3) establishes general recommendations for maintaining and safeguarding identified historic landscape features.
 - Develop a preservation and maintenance plan, including installation-specific guidelines, for Fort Belvoir's historic properties
 - Conduct additional archival and architectural field investigations to consider expanding the current boundaries of the Fort Belvoir Historic District to encompass additional 1920s and 1930s officers' housing. These include Buildings T451-456, T457-460, T479-81, T483-484, T487-494, and T496).
 - Undertake a comprehensive survey and evaluation of the installation's Cold War resources (1946-1989) to determine if any qualify for *exceptional significance* under Criterion Consideration G. Cold War properties identified to date include the Thermo-Con House (Building 172) and the U.S. Army Package (Nuclear) Power Reactor Multiple Property (Buildings 350, 372, 373, 375, and 376).
 - Reevaluate all buildings on the installation, including the Engineer Proving Ground, as they reach the 50-year age criterion and sufficient historical perspective has been achieved to determine their potential eligibility to the National Register.

Training for Personnel Involved in Cultural Resources Management

Periodic training for personnel involved in planning, engineering and cultural resources management will refine the skills necessary to manage Fort Belvoir's historic properties. In general training should familiarize base personnel with historic preservation legislation, procedures, and general requirements for compliance. The training also should include familiarizing personnel in appropriate treatment strategies for archeological sites and historic buildings, and in building preservation techniques. Specifically, Fort Belvoir's training program should:

- Ensure that the CRM has appropriate knowledge, skills, and professional training to carry out responsibilities established in AR 200-4. The CRM should receive continuing training in the latest developments in resource documentation and evaluation, conservation, and planning. Training courses are conducted by the Department of Defense (DoD), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the National Park Service (NPS), and other agencies (Table 9). For additional information, refer to the National Park Service annual training directory published in *CRM* (Cultural Resource Management), available by contacting *CRM* (2250) U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Cultural Resources, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.
- Provide training opportunities for Division and Branch chiefs to broaden awareness of cultural resource management responsibilities as established by Federal legislation and AR 200-4.

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- Provide training to maintenance and other private contractors in applying appropriate preservation and maintenance techniques for Fort Belvoir's historic structures.
 - Enroll personnel that maintain historic resources in introductory courses in Historic Preservation Law (see Table 9).

Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Fort Belvoir's Historic Properties

Preservation and rehabilitation are recommended as the most appropriate treatment options for historic resources at Fort Belvoir. Fort Belvoir should develop a preservation and maintenance plan for Fort Belvoir's historic properties, including buildings, structures, and associated landscape features. The plan should promote the retention of important character-defining features and historic materials within the context of the installation's mission. The objectives of the preservation and maintenance plan should include: (1) identification of interior and exterior character-defining features and building modifications; (2) assessment of the overall condition of each building; and (3) development of building-specific recommendations for repair and maintenance.

Thereafter, Fort Belvoir should:

- Maintain historic buildings and structures to prevent their deterioration and to preserve their historic integrity. Guidelines for preserving and maintaining historic properties should follow the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*⁴ and DA PAM 200-4.
 - Take into consideration feasible alternatives when undertakings may affect historic properties.
 - Inform tenants housed in historic buildings of their historical significance and explain the need for special management requirements.
 - Pre-qualify contractors seeking to undertake work on historic properties at Fort Belvoir based on demonstrated experience in the successful application of the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards*.
 - Implement a preventive maintenance program for Fort Belvoir's historic properties that is based on routine building inspections. Conduct annual inspections to identify and correct minor conditions that, if left untreated, may lead to more serious deterioration. A sample annual inspection form is included in Figure 13 (Chapter IV).
 - Provide training opportunities for maintenance personnel in identifying common problems that affect Fort Belvoir's historic resources and in applying appropriate preservation and maintenance techniques. Slides are useful in illustrating problems, methods used for detecting the problems, and techniques used in historic building repairs. Slides also can be effective in portraying examples of good and poor repair jobs. Training opportunities specific to historic buildings are offered through
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the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a variety of other organizations. Available building conservation training courses are listed in Table 9.

- Incorporate the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards* under "General Provisions" when developing project specifications for undertakings affecting historic properties.
- Conduct a conditions survey of Fort Belvoir's historic buildings and structures every five years, in conjunction with updating the ICRMP.

Negotiation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA)

A Programmatic Agreement (PA), which is negotiated among the installation, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, seeks to reduce the need for Section 106 compliance projects by specifying types of undertakings (usually repetitive or redundant) that need not be reviewed for each separate undertaking of a type covered by the PA. A draft PA has been submitted with this document.

- If this ICRMP is to be used to negotiate the PA, portions of the ICRMP are subject to NHPA review by the SHPO under Section 106. After all consulting parties agree, the document can be adopted through the mechanisms of a PA. The ICRMP may then be used instead of standard review under the regulations.
- Following review of the Fort Belvoir ICRMP, a PA should be negotiated among Fort Belvoir, VDHR, and the ACHP to address routine maintenance and minor repair activities at the facility.
- The PA should specify types of actions that would be categorized as having "no adverse effect" upon historic properties, should those projects be undertaken within negotiated parameters. These categorical exclusions must be agreed upon with VDHR and ACHP as activities considered to have no adverse effect on cultural resources.

Periodic Review of the ICRMP

Conditions at Fort Belvoir and other installations change rapidly. The present ICRMP has presented conditions with regard to the installation's cultural resources as of 2000; however, changes in the mission, function, and/or administration of this installation may create conditions that require modifications in the terms of this document. Thus, it is recommended that Fort Belvoir:

- assess the yearly performance of the Cultural Resource Management Program in meeting CRM goals, and revise ICRMP goals, policies, and procedures as needed.

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- Maintain a copy of the ICRMP for Army community and local community review. Provide copies to the Public Affairs, SHPO, and local government office.
 - Maintain up-to-date organizational and procedural flow charts.
 - Maintain up-to-date base maps with current archeological and architectural data.
 - Conduct building conditions assessments as needed.

REFERENCES CITED

1. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, *Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in Virginia* (Richmond, Virginia, 1996).
2. National Park Service, *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation*. *Federal Register* 48, No. 190 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1983).
3. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Washington: Heritage Preservation Services, 1995).